

AMENDMENTS TO THE SPECIFICATION

The following listing of claims replaces all prior listings, and all prior versions, of claims in the application.

Page 3, line 2, please insert the following paragraph:

Patent Document 1: Japanese Unexamined Patent Application Publication
No. 5-41899

However, according to the method of disposing an acoustic lens or the method of having different size and shape of transducers are used, the sound-pressure distribution of the ultrasound beams is fixed, and thus the beam width and the focal point cannot be changed at image-pickup time. Accordingly, a plurality of ultrasonic probes having different beam widths and the focal points must be prepared, and each of the ultrasonic probes must be replaced in accordance with an imaging portion, thereby the apparatus becomes difficult to use.

An object of the present invention is to achieve an ultrasonic probe having an improved resolution of ultrasound images and ease of use, and an ultrasonic imaging apparatus.

Page 3, please delete the third full paragraph as follows:

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